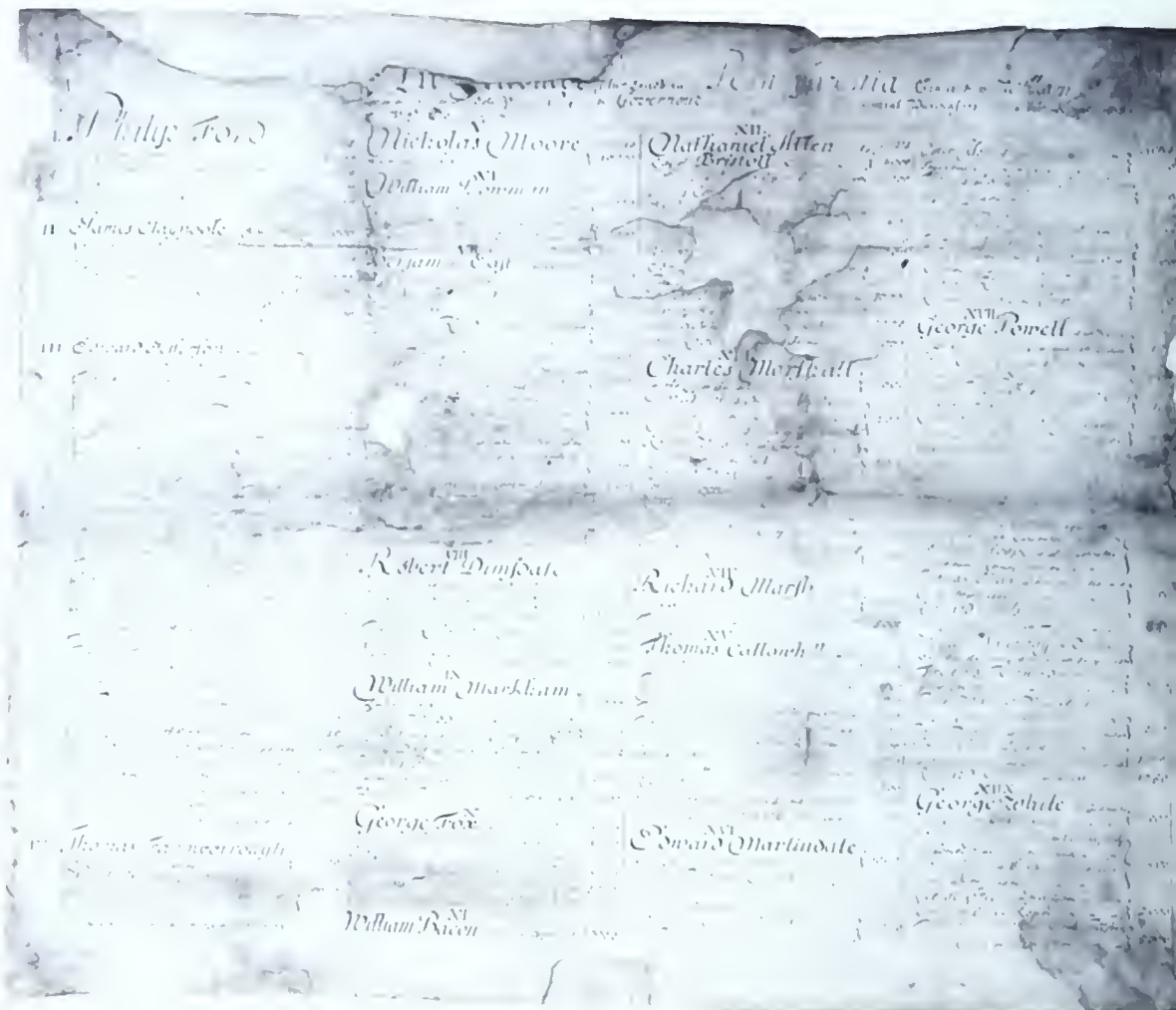


PY H673.2 F527p c.1
Pennsylvania Historical and
Museum Commission.
The First Purchasers of
Pennsylvania

*The First Purchasers
of Pennsylvania*

October 25, 1681

J PENNSYLVANIA STATE LIBRARY
DOCUMENTS SECTION



The First Purchasers of Pennsylvania, page one.

In 2002, through the generosity of the Haley Foundation of New Hope, Pennsylvania the fragile parchment pages were conserved at the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia.



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The First Purchasers of Pennsylvania *October 25, 1681*

This document is the earliest known compilation of people who purchased acreage directly from William Penn in the months immediately following receipt of his March 4, 1681 Charter from King Charles II for the land destined to be the colony of Pennsylvania. These approximately 260 men and women bought acreage in what are now Philadelphia, Bucks, Delaware, and Chester Counties. The purchases were sold in thirty-two groups, intended to be 10,000 acres each, and the document is divided into thirty-two sections. There are discrepancies in that this list does not add up to exactly 320,000 acres. Most people bought 125, 250, 500, or 1,000 acres each, at a cost of £1 for each fifty acres. In addition, each purchaser received gratis a lot or lots in the layout of Philadelphia and its adjoining liberties area, in the ratio of one city acre for each fifty in their rural purchase. The location of the acreage, including the city lots, was assigned by Penn's administrators; the buyers did not get to choose their lands.

The "First Purchasers" list was probably completed by Penn or his agents just days before two of his Land Commissioners, John Bezer and Nathaniel Allen, sailed for the colony on the *Bristol Factor* in late October 1681 to survey and lay out acreage for the purchasers. It is likely this document sailed with them, landing at New Castle, Delaware, on December 15, 1681. A third commissioner, William Crispin, sailing separately, was blown off course, and landed in Barbados where he died shortly thereafter. A fourth, William Haige, arrived in Pennsylvania late in 1681. Penn himself added notations for the commissioners and signed the bottom right hand corner of page two. He sailed for Pennsylvania for the first time August 30, 1682, almost a year later. This list does not include the Swedish, Dutch, and other English settlers already living west of the Delaware River in 1681.

The document is a treasure of historical and genealogical information. Entries include the purchaser's name, home locality, occupation, and the amount of acreage obtained. It is a collective portrait of one group of immigrants to America, their lives and times. Most of the purchasers were English, from all over the British Isles, especially the London area, and were largely middle class tradesfolk. All were members of the Religious Society of Friends, otherwise known as Quakers. Some, like Caleb Pusey, a London glassmaker, settled in 1682 near Upland (Chester) in Delaware County, where his home, visited on several occasions by Penn himself, still stands. Others, like George Fox, founder and leader of the Society of Friends, chose not to leave England, but bought some Pennsylvania land and therefore a part of Penn's vision. A second list of purchasers that included names from the first, plus additional buyers, was prepared by Penn May 22, 1682, and is published in the *Pennsylvania Archives*, First Series, Volume 1.

The list was retained in the records of the Land Office, the first unit of government established by Penn, for it appears on a 1748 survey of Land Office documents by Chief Surveyor Richard Peters. The list of purchasers is inscribed on two 23"X 27 1/2" pages of parchment, probably calf or sheepskin, written with iron gall ink, a common media at the time for official documents. Before conservation treatment in early 2002, the pages were in extremely poor condition with gaping holes in each and large tears completely through the body of page two. Much of this damage certainly existed by July 21, 1763, when the pages were recorded in their entirety in the Office of Land Records Patent Book AA, volume 5, pages 130-39, by Master of the Rolls Charles Brockden. Brockden wrote in the Patent Book's margin, among other notations, "a Hole in the Original Ocasioned I suppose by the Eat of Mice." Brockden also recorded a third page, containing Penn's instructions to the commissioners, now lost. During the mid-twentieth century, the verso of each page was "silked," an obsolete method of preservation that glued translucent silk fabric to a fragmented item to hold it together. The original document was transferred to the Pennsylvania State Archives from the Bureau of Land Records, Department of Internal Affairs in 1957. It is stored in a special climate controlled vault.

All previous published versions of the first purchasers list are derived from the 1763 copy. The transcript that follows was made directly from the original, and Brockden's commentaries on the poor condition of the parchment at various places, made in the margins of the 1763 version, are included here. Additional information provided by Richard Dunn and Mary Dunn, *The Papers of William Penn, Volume II*, 1680-1684, pp. 630-57, and Hannah Roach, "The First Purchasers of Pennsylvania," in *Passengers and Ships Prior to 1684*, Walter Lee Sheppard, editor.

The text of the now lost third page, present in 1763, is also included. The script is in "old style" and the language of the document contains some words in Middle English, with superscript abbreviations. The symbol "f" for the archaic long "s" is retained for this transcription. Brackets denote contemporary or Brockden's notations. A glossary of selected occupations given in the document and biographical sketches of five representative first purchasers follow the main text. Only fourteen women appear on the list; historical information on them is scant. The transcript was prepared in November 2001 by State Archives volunteer and medieval scholar Denise Van Sandt-Boyd. Biographical sketches prepared by Dr. Louis Waddell. Introduction by Linda A. Ries.

For more information on the Pennsylvania State Archives and its holdings, visit the Web site at www.phmc.state.pa.us

250 William Crispin
 500 Silas Crispin
 in the Kingdom of Scotland Gent.
 500 Benjamin Chambers
 500
 XXX.
 500 Laurence Grenon
 of Exeter in y County of Cornwall Gent.
 500 Joseph Grenon of Exeter in y
 County of Cornwall Gent.
 250
 XXXI.
 500 William Penn the Younger
 & Latitia Penn the Children of
 500 William Penn Esq. & Her.
 XXXII.
 250 J. J. Martin
 2000
 The present duty of the Commissioners is to lay
 out Ten Thousand Acres for a Town in within the
 250 Purchaser or Purchasers of every five Thousand Acres shall
 250 have One hundred Acres. And that the Town be laid
 500 out together according to this Statute and the
 500 of y Counties y Purchaser belonging to y Statute
 best part of this Town be laid out for y present
 I referre to my Instructions dated y first of Nov. 1681.
 O. J. Penn

Last column, page two, The First Purchasers of Pennsylvania showing William Penn's signature.

[Verso, page one, top center:]

/seal/ Received in the office for Recording of Deeds for the City & County of Philadelphia in Pat Book AA [?] 5 Pag 130 &c. The 21st Day of July 1763 witness my hand and seal of my office ap^d C Brockden Rec^{dr}

[Verso, page one, left bottom:]

[No 3?] WP}Schedule of Land [Sold?]
in England by Wm Penn

[Recto, page one:]

An Accompt of the Land in Pennsylvania Granted by William Penn Esq^r Sole Proprietary & Governour of that Province To several Purchafors within the Kingdom of England. Viz^t To

Acres

I.	• Philip Ford of London Merchant	.5000
	• Thomas Rudyard of London Gent	.2000
	• The same	.2000
	• Herbert Springet of London Gent	.1000
II.	• James Claypoole of London Mrchant	.5000
	• John Moore and Joseph Moore of Lond M ^r ch ^{ts}	.1000
	• Sabian Coles of London Merchant	.1000
	• Thomas Barker of London Wine Cooper	.1000
	• Humphry South of London Merchant	.1000
	• Samuel Jobson of S ^t Mary Magdalens in y ^e County of Surrey Fellmonger	.1000
III.	• Edward Jefferfon of Ashwell in the County of Hertford Maulster	.1500
	• Thomas Scott of London Taylor	.500
	• John Goodson of London Chirurgeon	.500
	• John Beckly of London Perfumer	.250
	• Daniel Quare of London Clockmaker	.250
	• John Stringfellow of London Taylor	.500
	• Richard Townsend of London Carpenter	.250
	• Caleb Pusey of London Glaßmaker	.250
	• John Hicks of London Cheesemonger	.250
	• Henry Murey of London Taylor	.250
	• Edward Blake of London Turner	.250
	• William Moore of London Plaisterer	.500
	• Henry Sleighton of London Turner	.250
	• John Pusey of London Dyer	.250
	• Thomas Virgoe of London Clockmaker	.500
	• Thomas Burbary of London Shoemaker	.250
	• John Allington of London Salter	.250
	• Richard Jordain of London Shoemaker	.250
	• Samuel Bennett of London Flax drefser	.250

• Thomas Cobb of London	Shoemaker	.250
• Thomas Tibbye of London	Joyner	.250
• Elizabeth Shorter of London	Glover	.250
• Amos Nichols of London	Distiller	.250
• John Barber of London	Brewer	.250
• Jonathan Stanmore of London	Shoemaker	.250
• John Spencer of London	Taylor	.125
• Mark Keynton of London	Carpenter	.125
• John Jones of the Parish of S ^t Andrews		
• Holbourne London	Glover	.500
• William Boswell of Southwark in the County of Surrey	Poulterer	.500
• Edward Simkins of the same Place	Feltmaker	.250

IV. • Thomas Farmborough of London	Chairmaker	.5000
• Arent Sonmans of Walliford in the County of Midlothian in the Kingdom of Scotland	Gent.	.5000

V.

• Nicholas Moore of London	Gent.	.10000
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VI.

• William Bowman the Eld ^r of Wan[d]sworth in the County of Surrey	Glazier	.5000
• Griffith Jones of the Parish called Mary Magdalens Bermondsey in Ye. County of Surrey	Glover	.5000

VII.

• Benjamin Eaft of Brookswharf London	Sugar Baker	.1250
• Charles Bathurst	Citizen and Salter of London	.1250
• William Kent	Citizen and M ^t chant Taylor of London	.1250
• John Tovey of London	Grocer	.1250
• William Philips of London	Wine Cooper	
• Joseph Philips	Son of y ^e said Wm. Philips	.1250
• Jo[h]n B]arnes of Chiltington in the [County of S]ufsex	Taylor for his Daughter	.1000
• N[athanie]l Harding of London	Ba[ket] maker	.500
• William Carter of Wapping in the County of Middx	Turner	.500
• Francis Harri[son] of London	Poulterer	.250
• John Carren of Hedly in y ^e County of Southon	Maul ^{ster}	.500
• John Swift of y ^e Town of Southon in y ^e County of [Hants.]	Glazier	.500

- William Lawrence of Axbridge in the County of
Somerset Woolen draper[acreage missing]

[Marginalia to the left of the above entries:]

These four Lines & a part were
in the Original somewhat Obscure
The Parchmt. appearing Erased
there tho in y^c same Hand-writing
The Figures plain Enough _ C. Brockden Rec^{dt}.

VIII.

- Robert Dimfdale of
in Edminton the County of Middx Chirurgeon5000
- Hugh Lamb of the Parish of S^t Martins in
the Field in the County of Middx Hosier2500
- Thomas Rudyard of London Gent1000
- Herbert Springet of London Gent500
- William Rufel of London Phistian1000

IX.

- William Markham
of London Gent5000
- Henry Waddy of the Parish of S^t Andrews Holbourn in y^c
County of Middx Millener750
- John Day of London Carpenter1250
- Francis Plumstead of the Minorites
London Iron Monger2500
- William Haige of London Merchant500

X.

- George Fox of London Gent1250
- Alexander Parker of London Haberdasher1000
- Rob^t Lodge of [a blank in y^c original] in the County of York Yeom500
- John Burnyeat Tho Zachary & Cuthbert Hurst1250
- James Park Thomas Langhorn & Thomas Lawfon1000
- Ambrofe Rigge William Piggot Nathan Owen5000

XI.

- William Bacon of y^c Middle Temple Lond. Gent10000

XII.

- Nathaniel Allen of the
City of Bristoll Cooper2000
- John Hort of the City of Bristoll Curryer1000
- Henry Comby of the City of Bristoll Weaver500
- William [Smith of the City] of Bristoll Brafs founder500
- James [lis] Bristoll M^tchant1000
- Richard [Corslet] [City of Bristoll] Goldsmith1000

• Edm[und Bennet] City of Bristoll Tobacco [cutter]	1000
• William Smith [B]ristol Mariner	1000
• Margaret M[artindale] Wife of Edward Martindale of [y ^e Bris]toll M ^r chant	1000
• John Love [of the] City [of] Bristoll	1000

[marginalia:]

These Blanks were left so to denote a
Hole in the Original Ocasioned I sup=
=pose by the Eat of Mice & I have Re=
=corded all the Words & Parts of yt.
were Legible as here

C. Brockden Rec^{dr}.

XIII.

• Charles Marfhall of the City of Bristoll Phisitian	1000
• Charles Jones Sen ^r of the City of Bristoll Sope boyler and	
• Charles Jones Jun ^r of the same Place M ^r chant	2000
• Robert Vickris of Chew in y ^e County of Somerset Merchant and Richard Vickris of Bristoll Merchant	2000
• John Moon of the City of Bristoll Linnen drap	500
• William Brown of the City of Bristoll M ^r chant	1000
• Charles Harfford of the City of Bristoll Sopeboyler	1000
• Richard Snead of y ^e City of Bristoll Mercer	1500
• John Jones of the City of Bristoll Linnen Drap[er]	
Michael Jones of the same Place Grocer	1000

XIV.

• Richard Marfh of the City of Bristoll Merchant	5000
The same	5000

XV.

• Thomas Callowhill of the City of Bristoll Mercer	5000
The same	500
• Nathaniel Evans of	500
• Thomas Paget of the City of Bristoll Mealman	500
• Thomas Pafchall of the City of Bristoll Pewterer	500
• Jone Dixon of the City of Bristoll Widdow	500
• James Petre	500
• John Jennett of the City of Bristoll Silkweaver	500
• Roger Drew	500
• Edward Erberry of the City of Bristoll Sope boiler	500
• William Lane of the City of Bristoll Grocer	500

XVI.

- Edward Martindale
of the City of Bristoll Merchant1000
- Philip Theodore Leman of the City
of Bristoll Gent.1000
- Arnold Brown and
William Cole of y^c Custom and
Two more5000
- Peter Young of the City of Bristoll
Sopeboiler500
- Thomas Bailey of the City of Bristoll
Bodies maker250
- Joel Gelson250
- John Bristo of the City of Bristol500
- Thomas Briggs of Hedelston in the
Parish of Acton in the County of Palatine of
Chester Yeoman500
- George Keith of Edinburgh in the
Kingdom of Scotland Gent.500

XVII.

- George Powell of y^c Parish
of Bucklam in y^c County of SomersettButcher50[0]
- John Clare of Frome Elwood in the
County of Suffex Butcher500
- John Hill of Berbington in the County
of Somersett Shoemaker500
- Christopher Forford of Froom
in the County of Somers Wire drawer500
- William Beabes of Backwell in y^c
County of Somersett Yeoman1000
- Samuel Allen of Chew Magna in
the County of Somersett Shoemaker2000
- Walter King of Haveyard1000
- John Paſons of Middlezoy in
the County of Somersett Carpenter&
- Abraham Hoope of Bridgewater
in the same County Joiner500
- Thomas Pleas of Edenton in the same
County Serge maker250
- Richard Mills of Bridgewater in
the County of Somersett Taylor250
- William Salloway of Taunton
Deane in the County of Somersett Sergemaker250
- Francis Harfford of the same Place Sergemaker250
- John Wall of Moorelinch in
the County of Somersett Husbandman and
John Wallis of the same place Husbandman250
- John Coles of Catcott in the Parish
of Moorelinch in the County of Som^{rs} Sergemak^r1000
- Richard Collins of Bath1250

XIIX.

- George White of Buckleberry
in y^e County of Berks Yeoman2500
- John Sanfum of Chevels in the County of Berks Woodmongerand
- John May of Bucklebury in the Same
County Buttonmaker500
- George Green of Farringdon in the
County of Berks Roper2000
- Francis Smith of Great Illford
in the County of Efsex Yeom5000

[Recto, page two:]

XIX.

- John Barber
of Shipley in the County of Sufsex Yeom2500
- Thomas Roland of Billingshurst
in the County of Sufsex Yeom2500
- Thomas Adams of Alfreton in
the County of Sufsex Yeom1250
- John Songhurst of Chiltonington in the County of
Sufsex Carpenter
and John Baines of y^e same Taylor1250
- Thomas Bankes of Alfreton
in the County of Sufsex Maulster1250
- William Wade of Westham in
the County of Sufsex Yeoman1250

XX.

- ~~John~~ George Willard of Warre
in the County of Sufsex Yeom1250
- Priſeilla Sheppard of Worminghurst
in the County of Sufsex Spinster500
- Sarah Herfent of the same Place Spinster500
- Israel Brench of the same Place husb^d man500
- Elizabeth Symmes of Steyning in the
County of Sufsex Spinster500
- Thomas Bourne of Crawley in the
County of Sufsex Mercer1250
- Walter Martin of Westminston in
the County of Sufsex husbandman500
- Thomas Herriott of Hurst P[ierre]point
in the County of Sufsex Yeom2500
- Thomas Herriott of Hurst P[ierre]point
in the County of Sufsex Yeom2500

XXI.

- Thomas Dell of Upton in
the County of Bucks Yeom500

• John Pennington of Woodside in the Parish of Agmondisham in y ^c County of Bucks Gent	1250
• William Pennington the Younger of the same place Drugster	1250
• Edward Penington of the same Place	1250
• Mary Penington the Younger of the same place Spinster	1250
• Thomas Elwood of Hunger hill in the same County Gent	500
• Thomas Couborne of Lambern Woodlands in the county of Berks Carpenter	500
• Alexander Beardsley of the County of Worcester Glover	500
• John Price of the same City Taylor	500
• William Pardoe of the City of Worcester Merchant	1250
• Francis Fincher of the City of Worcester Glover	1250

XXII. • Charles Lloyd Gent. Richard Davis Gent. Margarett Davis Widdow John Humphrys Gent. Edward Thomas Yeoman All of y ^c County of Mount gomery Robert Owen Gent. Lewis Owen Gent. and Rowland Ellis of Merienethshire Gent.	10000
• William Powel of Southwark in the County of Surrey	1250

XXIII.

• William Bingly of the City of Oxford Maulster	500
• Anne Oliffe of the City of Oxford Widdow	500
• John Hart of Witney in the County of Oxon Yeom	1000
• Joseph Richards of Newgate in the County of Oxon Yeom	500
• Joshua Hasting of Swarford in the County of Oxon Yeom	1000
• Richard Ward of the same place Yeom	1000
• Richard Hand of the same Place Husbandman	1000
• John March of Neather Hayford in the County of Oxon Carpenter	1000
• Sylvester Jourden of the same Place Carpenter	500
• William Cecill of Longcomb in the County of Oxon Carpenter	500
• Thomas Cerey of the City of Oxford Farrier	500

• Edward Bettris of the City of Oxford Chirurgeon	2000
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XXIV.

• John Ap John of the Parish of Ruabon in the County of Denby Yeoman	and
• Thomas Wynne of Caerwys in the County of Flint Chirurgeon	5000
• John Thomas of LLaithcum in the County of Merioneth Yeoman & Edward Jones of Bala in the Same County Chirurgeon	5000

XXV.

• Ralph Withers of Bishops Canning in the County of Wilts Yeoman	500
• John Bezer of the same Place Maulster	500
• The same	500
• John Clark Jun ^r of the Devizes in the County of Wilts Baker	500
• Isaac Selfe of Market Lavington in the County of Wilts and	
• Edward Guy of the same Place Maulsters	500
• Edward Luffe of Market Lavington in the County of Wilts Shoemaker	And
• John Luffe Son of the said Edward Luffe	500
• Richard Fue Sen ^r of the same place Shoemaker	And
• Richard Fue Jun ^r of Weadhampton in y ^e County of Wilts Son of Richard ye. Elder	500
• John Brothers of Markett Lavington in the County of Wilts	And
• Robert Serghell of Weadhampton in the same County Yeoman	500
• Edward Bezar of Rowde in the County of Wilts Mafon	500
• Anthony Elton of Yatesbury in the County of Wilts Yeoman	500
• Edward Brown of Marleborough in the County of Wilts Yeoman	500
• Daniel Smith of y ^e same Place Distiller	500
• John Harding of the same Place Maulster	500

• John Gibbon of Warmnester in the County of Wilts Shoemaker	500
• William Smith of Broomhamhouse in the County of Wilts Yeoman	1250
[a hole in y ^c . original CB]	
• Samuel Noyes of y ^c . Devizes in the County of Wilts Sergemaker	500
• Thomas Sagar of Foseham in the Parish of Christian Melford in the County of Wilts Yeoman	And
• Susannah Bayley of Catcomb in the Parish of Hill Marton in the same County Widdow	500
• John Buckley Jun ^r . of Melkysham in the County of Wilts Husbandman	250
• William Withers of Bishops Canning in the County of Wilts Yeoman	500

XXVI.

• George Andrews Jun ^r of Rowde in the County of Wilts Sergemaker	250
• William Shute of Segre in the County of Wilts Yeoman	500
• Francis Smith of the Devizes in the County of Wilts Gent	500
• Anne Crawley of Rowde in the County of Wilts Spinster	500
• Robert Somer of the same Place Yeoman	500
• Robert Stevens of the same Place Yeoman	250
• Thomas Gerrish of Bromham in the County of Wilts Clothier	500
• William Clowde of Seend in the County of Wilts Yeoman	500
• Oliver Cope of Avebury in the County of Wilts Taylor	250
• Enock Flower of Corfham in the County of Wilts Barber	2000
• John Rebye of Marlborough in the County of Wilts Maulster	250
• John Bunce of the same Place Maulster	250
• John Kinsman of Fifel in the County of Wilts Yeom	500
• William Hitchcock of Marlborough in the County of Wilts Maulster	500
• William Bezer of the Parish of Bishops Canning in y ^c . County of Wilts Husbandman	250
• Thomas Hatt of Goatacre in the County of Wilts Cordwinder	500
• Thomas Hayward	250

• James Hill	500
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XXVII.

• John Boy of Luckington in the County of Wilts Mercer	1000
• Jane May of the Devizes in y ^e . County of Wilts Widow	250
• Edward Edwards of Brinkworth in the County of Wilts Yeoman	250
• Robert Frame	250
• Philip Runing als Rackings	250
• William Bayly	500
• Henry Barnard	250
• John Collett	500
• Thomas Minchin	500
• Edward Jefferyes of Cirencester in y ^e . County of Gloucester	500
• Hugh Chamberlain of the City of London Doctor of Phisick	5000

XXVIII.

• William Lowther Margarett Lowther Jun ^r . and Anne ^{Charlott} Lowther Children of Anthony Lowther of Marske in the County of York Esquire	10000
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XXIX.

• William Crispin & of Silas Crispin Kingsvale in the Kingdom of Ireland Gent	5000
• Beniamin Chambers	5000

XXX.

• Laurence Growdon of Trevone in y ^e . County of Cornwall Gent.	5000
• Joseph Growden of Austle in y ^e . County of Cornwall Gent.	5000

XXXI.

• William Penn the Younger & Letitia Penn the Children of William Penn Prop ^r . & Gov ^r	10000
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XXXII.

• Joseph Martin of London Merchant	5000
• James Lyel of London Merchant	5000

The present Duty of the Comissioners is to lay
 out Ten Thousand Acres for a Town in which the
 Purchafors or Purchafors of every five Thousand acres shall
 have one hundred acres And that the Town shares be laid
 out together according to this Catalogue and the Contiguousness
 of y^c Counties y^c Purchasors belong to And I do further order that the
 best part of this Town be laid out for y^c p^{re}sent Purchasors: and [for the Rest]
 I referr to my Instructions dated y^c Fourteenth of October 1681

Wm. Penn

[Recto, page three, now lost, recorded in 1763:]

William Penn Proprietary and
 Governour of Penn=^sylvania Greeting To
 his Trusty and well=^sbeloved Friends William Crispin
 William Haige John Bezer and Nathaniel Allen

These are to Authorize and Appoint you my Commifioners in
 my name fully and Effectually to act whatever may be Requisite for fet=
 ling the Present Colony Embarquit this Autumn at London and Bristoll for Penn=^sylvania
 and all other adventurers with respect to the Survey and Allottment of every Man his
 Share according to the Cata=^sloge of Purchasors and the Instructions that are herewith
 given to you

For all which this shall be Your sufficient Warrant and authority
 Given under my Hand and Seal at London in the Kingdom of Eng=^sland this five and
 twentieth day of October in y^c Year of our Lord accord=^sing to the English Accompt One
 thousand six hundred Eighty and One

Wm. Penn (Seal)

NB. The Original in three pieces of Parch=
 ment Connected together by a Label On which
 Label was the Seal at Arms of William Penn y^c
 late Proprietary of Penn=^sylvania & cth. The two first
 Pieces of parchment were each of them divided into four
 Columns and Numbred as above in y^c Margin=
 over against y^c Beginning of each Paragraph of y^c
 Column next y^c Margin And where y^c Co=
 lumns were not next the Margin over the Top of each
 Paragraph in Roman Figures as above Beginning
 with One and Ending with thirty two The Paragraph
 or Clause beginning with y^c Words [The present Duty]
 Signed Wm. Penn was in the fourth Column of=
 the Second piece of Parchment and the Rest in the=
 third Piece of Parchment as above [mark for seal] The
 whole Recorded the 21st Day of July 1763.

[Marginalia to the left of the above entry:]

Note the several Quantities of Acres were written in Figures
 in the Original according to this Record CBrockden Rec^{dr}.

Glossary of Selected Occupations

Source: *The Oxford English Dictionary*, Second Edition, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1989.

Chirurgion: One whose profession it is to cure bodily diseases and injuries by manual operation; a Surgeon.

Currier: One whose trade is the dressing and coloring of leather after it is tanned.

Farrier: One who shoes horses; a shoeing smith; . . . hence, one who also treats the diseases of horses.

Fellmonger: A dealer in the hides of animals, especially sheepskins.

Glazier: One engaged in the manufacture of glass; a glassmaker.

Glover: A maker and seller of gloves.

Hosier: One who makes or deals in hose (stockings and socks) and frame-knitted or woven underclothing generally.

Joiner: A craftsman whose occupation it is to construct things by joining pieces of wood; a worker in wood who does lighter and more ornamental work than that of a carpenter.

Maulster: Variant spelling of Maltster; one who makes malt; a brewer.

Mealman: One who deals in meal.

Mercer: One who deals in textile fabrics, especially silks, velvets, and other costly materials.

Phisitian: 1. A student of natural science, or of physics. 2. One who practices the healing art, including medicine and surgery.

Roper: One who makes ropes.

Sergemaker: A maker of serge, a durable twilled cloth of worsted, or with the warp of worsted and the woof of wool, extensively used for clothing and for other purposes.

Sope boiler: One who makes soap.

Soder: Variant of Solder. One who solders, or joins metal with lead.

Turner: One who joins or fashions objects of wood, metal, bone, etc., on a lathe.

Woolendraper: A dealer in woolen goods.

Yeoman: A man holding a small landed estate, a freeholder under the rank of a gentleman; hence vaguely a commoner who cultivates his own land.

Biographical Sketches of Five First Purchasers

Principal source: *Lawmaking and Legislators in Pennsylvania: A Biographical Dictionary, Vol. I, 1682-1709*, edited by Craig W. Horle and Marianne S. Wokeck (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1991).

Caleb Pusey (c.1651-1728). Caleb Pusey was born about 1651 in Berkshire, England. His father, William Bartholomew, took the surname of Caleb's mother, Pusey, as an alias, probably because the Manor of Pusey in Berkshire had been a prized estate since the Anglo-Saxon period and the Pusey biological male line was dying out. In 1659, Caleb joined a congregation of Baptists but became a Quaker a few years later. In 1672 he wrote a tract defending his new faith as soundly Christian, anticipating the stand he would take against George Keith's criticisms in the 1690s. He moved to London and learned "lastmaking," but in the First Purchaser Catalogue of October 25, 1681 listed his occupation as "glassmaker." In 1681, he married widow Mary Stone Wharley and purchased 250 acres in Pennsylvania from William Penn. Arriving in Pennsylvania by early 1683, he put up two mills on Chester Creek, in Chester County, as a 1/32 partner in a group that included his own father-in-law and William Penn. Due to flood damage and nearby competition, the milling partnership failed, but a new ownership group arose after 1690 that again included Pusey and Penn. Business turned profitable, and in 1705 Pusey was able to buy the majority interest. His initial business problems had not, however, prevented him from immersing himself in Chester County public offices, beginning with appraiser in 1685. He served as a justice from 1698 to 1724. He was an assemblyman in twelve annual sessions between 1686 and 1712, and he was a Provincial Councilor in 1695, 1697, and in those years between 1699 and 1712 when he was not an assemblyman.

In politics Pusey stood generally for Quaker ascendancy and a strong Penn proprietary, and worked against the royal appointees Benjamin Fletcher and William Markham. He approved of Markham's Frame of 1696 because he considered it much like the 1683 Frame of Government. But historian Joseph S. Foster's research has shown that Pusey sometimes wanted Penn to alter his policies. In the chaotic period before Penn's 1699 return to Pennsylvania, Pusey backed the authority of the 1696 Frame, which many others rejected, and pledged loyalty to the royal government and its policies. During Penn's second visit to his colony, 1699-1701, Pusey backed Penn's decisions and approved of the Charter of Privileges of 1701. He approved also of the separation of the lower counties' legislature from the Pennsylvania Assembly. Penn even considered taking Pusey back to England. After Penn left, Pusey joined in opposing David Lloyd's bid for political ascendancy over the government. In 1704, when a breakdown occurred between Gov. John Evans and the House of Representatives, Pusey, as a Provincial Councilor, worked for reconciliation, and as an assemblyman the following year he labored with those who tried to make the Crown-governor-Assembly

system workable. He backed the affirmation bill and sought a solution to Crown disallowances of Pennsylvania statutes. He argued against the House of Representatives' attacks on provincial secretary James Logan and Gov. Charles Gookin, and was a spokesman for appropriating funds for Queen Anne's government even though the money was obviously going for war expenses. Among the statutes he supported was an importation charge on slaves, which acted as a deterrent to the increase of Pennsylvania's slave population. When Penn's supporters recaptured control of the House of Representatives in the 1710 elections, Pusey led initiatives for Penn's policies, including salary for the governor, a £2000 supply for the Crown, and strategies to stalemate David Lloyd.

One of Pusey's lasting contributions was his intellectual leadership of the defense of the existing Quaker system against attacks of George Keith. Briefly, the Keithian schism began with that Quaker minister's proposed reform of church practices, based on his unique interpretations of theological concepts, especially the nature of Christ in the resurrection and the last judgment. A majority of Quaker ministers did not accept these. The disagreement grew into social and political divisions after the preponderance of American Quaker leaders tried different methods to discipline or get rid of Keith. Keith's irascible temper, vicious tongue, and omniscient attitude were a strong contributing factor to the controversy. Although he was not a minister, Pusey's 1696 pamphlet, known by its shortened title, *A Modest Account from Pennsylvania*, was a high point for the anti-Keith side because it was smoothly logical and did not contain exaggerated statements of the sort Keith himself was using. Pusey made Keith's fine-spun theology seem like personal speculation that was not necessary to describe the road to salvation, and he made it appear that Keith had downgraded the Quaker's fundamental principle of the Inner Light.

Pusey's withdrawal from active politics began in 1712. He only occasionally attended Council meetings after that. Around 1721, he wrote the earliest history of Pennsylvania, in which he praised William Penn and the Quakers and condemned Keith. It was never published, but the manuscript and his related papers were used by Samuel Smith of New Jersey and Robert Proud in their histories of Pennsylvania, written in the last quarter of the eighteenth century.

On several occasions between 1683 and 1721 Pusey gave wise council in order to smooth relations with Native American groups. In August 1716, he was among a group of Chester County Quakers who petitioned for an absolute prohibition on buying or importing black slaves.

Today, the Caleb Pusey House in Upland, Chester County, preserves his memory.

Dr. Thomas Wynne (1627-1692). Born in Caerwys, Flintshire, Wales, he was setting fractures by his tenth birthday, and he later learned to be a surgeon and physician by working with established physicians in Shropshire (the county of Salop). Necessity led him to also become a cooper, and he had an early association with ale manufacture and

perhaps its sale. In Pennsylvania he often sided with those favoring sale of liquor, which may have been consistent with contemporary attitudes of physicians. He married a Quaker and embraced her faith, apparently under the guidance of John ap John, the leading Quaker founder in Wales. In 1661 he was imprisoned for six years for religious activities, followed by other incidents of religious suffering in the years up to 1681. In 1677, his pamphlet, *The Antiquity of the Quakers*, justified to Welsh readers the religious roots of the Society of Friends. In 1682 he joined others in an unsuccessful plea to Crown officials for the release of a group of Quakers imprisoned in Bristol. In 1681, he and John ap John purchased five thousand acres in Pennsylvania, and he sailed in August 1682 with William Penn on the *Welcome*. His second wife and most of his children and stepchildren accompanied them; John ap John never came to America. Wynne attended smallpox victims on the voyage. Despite heavy involvement in politics in Pennsylvania and the Lower Counties, the doctor practiced physic and surgery on occasions. He resided on lots in Philadelphia at first, but took title to 1,850 of the 2,500 acres of his share of the five thousand-acre First Purchase. Philadelphia's Chestnut Street was originally named Wynne Street. He represented Philadelphia County in the Assemblies of 1682 and 1683, serving as speaker and persuading members to observe customary parliamentary rules of order. In 1684 he was among a group of Philadelphians chastened by the Provincial Council for submitting a petition that expressed contempt for the government. The ringleader, Arthur Weston, was publicly whipped, and Wynne and the others were forced to place bond to guarantee their future good behavior. Unfortunately, the content of the petition has never been revealed. Wynne sold liquor on a retail basis, was fined for doing it without a license, and several times objected to proposed taxes on the liquor business. He returned to Britain in 1684, remaining into the summer of 1685 because his daughter Tabitha and her paramour were embezzling his Welsh properties. On this trip, he was imprisoned in London for three months for attending the funeral of another Quaker. On return to Pennsylvania he sold his Pennsylvania land, which was in Philadelphia and Chester County, and bought property on Cedar Creek in Sussex County and in Lewes. He was a justice of the peace in Sussex County from 1687 to 1691, and performed the duties in an outrageously obstinate and uncooperative manner. He denied the authority of the entire panel of justices, after William and Mary took the throne, on the rationale that commissions from the previous sovereign were invalid. In 1688, he also served in the Assembly, a session noted for its repeated, though unsuccessful, attempts to win the right to initiate legislation and other privileges from the Governor and Council. He also became a Provincial Court judge in 1690 and served until his death. He may have moved back to Philadelphia in 1691. At any rate, in January 1692 he was on a committee of the Philadelphia Monthly Meeting to decide whether to publish a work written by George Keith, the founder of a schism within American Quakerism. Wynne approved the publication, and eighteen days before his death joined with forty-two other Philadelphia Quakers in a statement of their reasons for supporting Keith's views.

In taking this stand they defied the preponderance of the Society of Friends in America.

In his will, Dr. Wynne divided much of his property between his eldest son and his widow. The rest was divided among five other children living in America. Tabitha, in Wales, was left only fifty shillings and a pithy remark. His estate included one indentured servant and three slaves.

John Parsons (? -1705). This carpenter came from Middlezoy Parish in Somersetshire, was the son of another Quaker, John Parsons, who had suffered imprisonment for attending Quaker services of the South Somerset Monthly Meeting and refusing to pay tithes to the Anglican Church. The carpenter John Parsons made a first purchase of five hundred acres jointly with a Quaker joiner from Bridgewater, Abraham Hooper. John delayed over a year before emigrating, arriving in Pennsylvania in April 1683. Although he took up his 250 acres in Bucks County, near the Falls of the Delaware, he never lived there and sold that property by 1701. Parsons never engaged in rural enterprises and always resided in Philadelphia. He lived on his lot at Second and Walnut Streets and derived his income largely from carpentry. In 1703 he was criticized by a grand jury for piling up so much lumber in the street near his lot that it could not be used as a thoroughfare. His brother, Thomas Parsons, operated one of the first mills in Pennsylvania, located on Frankford Creek. John returned to England in 1685 and married Anne Powell at Somerset Quarterly Meeting that summer. Then he returned to Philadelphia with her. He was very active in the Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, especially in matters dealing with its physical plant. He was increasingly called on to help make decisions for the meeting. In 1692 he joined in criticisms of the schism led by George Keith. Beginning in 1684, he signed several petitions to William Penn asking that changes be made in various policies. He was a member of the Assembly in 1700 and joined with those who petitioned Penn for a new frame of government, a charter of property, and land reforms, but he was not a consistent opponent of the proprietary interests. In 1701 Penn appointed him a regulator of the streets and watercourses of Philadelphia and a member of the Philadelphia Common Council. His considerable personal wealth made him a likely candidate for those appointments. As a common councilor he was entrusted with responsibility for verifying the receipts and disbursements of the City Corporation between 1701 and 1705. He died unexpectedly on the night of August 18, 1705, as a result of an obstruction in his throat.

Having no children, his estate was divided among his widow, his brother, and nieces and nephews. It included a slave valued at £55 and a white servant, indentured for four more years, who was valued at £12.

Griffith Jones (? - 1712). The pattern of experiences of this first purchaser is one of gradual alienation from Quaker society and of increasingly contrary political activity. Coming from a Welsh background, Jones, by 1670, was a resident of Bermondsey, a

hundred in Surrey County, close to London, recognized for its manufacturing. He belonged to Horsleydown Monthly Meeting and to the Meeting for Sufferings, a type of legal defense organization to assist persecuted Quakers. He himself had been imprisoned in 1677 with a group of Quakers who would not pay for rebuilding the local Anglican church and would not swear the required oath when brought before the Bishop of London's court. He was also arrested for preaching in Bristol in 1682. Personal tragedies had befallen him, the deaths of his first wife and three of the four children of his second wife. But he was wealthy enough to buy rights to five thousand acres in the First Purchase and send 15,000 bricks to Philadelphia to build a house. His second bride had brought a dowry of £700. Arriving in August 1682, Jones acquired large land holdings quickly, purchasing far more than his First Purchase five thousand acres and its accompanying city lots. He gained wealth by buying and selling lands and from rents, in the City, all three Pennsylvania counties, and in Sussex and, especially, Kent Counties in the Lower Counties of Delaware. He also owned at least four thousand acres in West Jersey. But by 1690 his personal behavior had seriously damaged his reputation. Selling liquor in his home without license, confessing publicly to drunkenness, and writing a disrespectful letter to the Council were episodes of his first two years. He bought the city's only tavern, the Blue Anchor, in 1684, and lived there a while with his family. In 1690 he sold it, but his repeated failures to fulfill business obligations made more enemies and his harsh tongue, exhibited when defending himself, caused him to be banned (although not completely disowned) from Philadelphia Monthly and Quarterly Meetings. Although living in Philadelphia, he represented Kent County in the Provincial Council; with his bad reputation he could not have been elected in Philadelphia. In the Council, he took the unpopular stand of supporting Governor John Blackwell's policies. Once Blackwell had departed, Jones opposed negotiating with House Speaker John White who wanted the Proprietor to give the Assembly the power to amend or repeal statutes. Jones signed a warrant for White's arrest, but the weight of the parliamentary tradition of legislators' immunity from prosecution forced the Council to abandon punishing White. In March 1691, Jones acknowledged supporting the principles of George Keith's schism within Quakerism. He managed to place himself further away from majority opinion by praising the royal governmental authority of Benjamin Fletcher, which replaced William Penn's proprietary political authority from 1693 until early 1695. Fletcher appointed Jones to his Council. During the subsequent administration of William Markham, Jones objected to the 1696 Frame (Markham's Frame). He participated in an abortive, spontaneous attempt to elect an Assembly under the 1683 Frame, which he argued should have been reinstalled when Fletcher had left. He was elected to the first Assembly of 1700 and led the fight to have the 1696 Frame set aside, but he was in neither the Assembly nor the Council when the Charter of 1701 was adopted.

Back in the Assembly representing Kent County in 1702-1703, and 1706-1709, Jones used all his influence against the power of the Proprietor, allying himself with the

ambitious David Lloyd and favoring the impeachment of Penn's provincial secretary, James Logan. In 1704-1705, Jones was Mayor of Philadelphia, and ironically his administration there earned the praise of both Logan and Penn. He revived the night watch and he stopped the Philadelphia County justices from interfering in City affairs. Automatically an alderman for life because he had been mayor, Jones attended every Common Council meetings until his death. In 1710, the friends of the proprietary interests recaptured a majority in the House of Representatives, and Jones never again sat in the Assembly.

In 1692, Jones had opted to join the Keithian schism, which increased his general unpopularity. In 1698, he attempted reconciliation with the Friends by repudiating his Keithian stand. But his final break with Quakerism came some time before September 1708. Philadelphia Monthly Meeting disowned his surviving son, Joseph, for many "attempts of the unnatural use of Man." Jones bribed Governor John Evans with £80 to pardon Joseph from any criminal prosecution. When Penn learned of the bribe, in September 1708, it became his principal reason for replacing Evans with Governor Charles Gookin.

Upon Jones's death in 1712, James Logan remarked that he had even cheated, in his will, his third wife, the widow of another Quaker, Patrick Robinson, because he left her with far less than the Robinson wealth she had given him when they had married.

Alexander Beardsley (? - 1697). This first purchaser was a glover—one who made or sold gloves—from Worcester, in Worcestershire. He had been imprisoned for participating in an unlawful assembly in 1670, suggesting a strong Society of Friends background. In late summer 1683, he and his family sailed to Pennsylvania with his fellow Worcester glover, fifty-seven-year-old Francis Fincher, and a third glover, Seemercy Adams. Fincher, who was by far the most active of the three in Quaker affairs, had purchased 1,000 acres, twice as much as Beardsley, and threw himself immediately into controversies over how the new colony should be run. But Fincher died accidentally by drowning only eight months after arriving. Beardsley's income was derived from the sale of general dry goods, a myriad of mostly imported items the new society needed—not just gloves. He had no desire to live in the country, and he had immediately sold his five hundred-acre claim to Fincher. His original city lot was on the Schuylkill River, but he soon sold that and moved to Delaware Front Street, the center of the commercial life of the City. He became active in the Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, serving to clear, or approve, Quaker couples who wanted to marry, to mediate disputes between members, and to collect money to build a meetinghouse. Eventually, he served as a trustee and became the treasurer. Beardsley's signature appeared on several documents condemning the actions and views of George Keith, and he was on a grand jury that presented Keith for defaming two Quakers who had criticized the Keithian beliefs. In 1696, he was among twenty Quakers who wrote King William III asking him to refute Anglican criticisms about Quaker domination of the government of Pennsylvania.

Beardsley was chosen to be a Philadelphia Common Councilor under the aborted City Charter of 1691, and in 1693 he was on a three-man committee to construct a sewer running along Front Street from Chestnut to Walnut Street. He was elected to the Assembly in 1695, probably because the voters knew he would support Quaker interests if and when a new frame of government was imposed. The debate over a new frame was stalemated during that session of the Assembly, however. After his death, an inventory of his shop goods proved that most of his wealth was in items he had bought for resale. His brick house on Front Street was left to his widow for life with a remainder interest to his eldest grandson.

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